ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Cahaba Valley Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

HEBRON CHURCH, JEFFERSON CO., ALA.,

October 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th, 1871.

OFFICERS:

ELDER M. HENDRICK.....MODERATOR.
ELDER P. S. MONTGOMERY.....CLERK.

Atlanta, Ga.:
Franklin Steam Printing House and Bookbindery,
J. J. TOON, Proprietor.
1871.

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Cahaba Valley Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

HEBRON CHURCH, JEFFERSON CO., ALA.,

October 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th, 1871.

OFFICERS:

ELDER M. HENDRICK.....MODERATOR.
ELDER P. S. MONTGOMERY.....CLERK.

Atlanta, Ga.:
Franklin Steam Printing House and Bookbindery,
J. J. TOON, Proprietor.
1871.

MINUTES.

HEBRON CHURCH, Oct. 13th, 1871.

The messengers of the different churches composing the Cahaba Valley Association, met with Hebron Church, Jefferson county, Ala., October 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th, 1871. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder M. Hendrick, from Psalms, xc: 1—"Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations," &c.

After a short recess, the body was called to order by the Moderator, Elder M. Hendrick, and the Clerk being absent, P. S. Montgomery was made Clerk, *pro tem.*

After which the letters from the different churches were received, and read by Elders A. J. Waldrop and H. W. Inzer.

Pleasant Grove.—J. L. Brasher, W. J. S. Brasher, and Larkin L. Vandever.

Mt. Pleasant—(Wolf Creek.)—Elder M. Hendrick, H. W. Inzer and T. C. Winchester.

Mt. Pisgah.—S. A. Goss, L. W. Turner, F. Straoner and R. J. Seal.

Cedar Grove.—D. P. White, H. B. Moore and Elder Jas. M. Thomas.

Harmony.—Upston Patmon.

Mt. Pleasant—(Jefferson county.)—Elder W. C. McLaughlin and John W. Bass.

Refuge.—W. C. Britton and D. S. Vardeman.

Black Creek—J. L. C. Vann and Jonathan Williams.

Concord.—G. W. Weldon.

New Hope.—A. W. Lacy, Jas. D. Inzer and Jas. Bibby.

Friendship—(Shelby county.)—E. W. Attaway, S. Cox and W. K. DeShazer.

Coosa Valley.—Elder P. Castlebury and J. A. Collins, Jr.

Bethel.—A. J. W. Obar, P. Hawkins and Thos. Atkins.

Hebron.—Elder A. McDonald, L B. McDonald and L. C. Owens.

Cooks Springs.—Elder Levi Perry.

Beulah.—H. Webster and J K. Byers.

The door of the Association was open for the reception of churches wishing to unite with her, when the following churches united with her:

Ashville.—R. Hodges and P. S. Montgomery.

Friendship—(St. Clair county)—James M. Newton, S. B. Crow and John Mize.

Mt. Pleasant.—John Bowline.

Central.—John Hiefror and B. J. Bass.

The Association then proceeded to elect a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, which resulted in the choice of Elder M. Hendrick, Moderator; P. S. Montgomery, Clerk; and H. B. Moore, Treasurer.

By move and second, the Association then listened to a report from Elder James M. Thomas, giving an account of his labor in her bounds.

Correspondents were then called for, and received Elder A. J. Waldroop from Canaan Association, and A. M. Posey from Coosa River.

Invited visiting ministers to seats, and received Eld. James Neighbors.

Appointed the following committees:

On Preaching.—Elder A. McDonald, F. B. McDonald, D. P. White, and Jonathan Williams.

On Business.—Elder H. W. Inzer, E. W. Allaway, and A. W. Lacy.

On Finance.—James D. Inzer, John Hiefror and John Fletcher.

Adjourned to 9½ o'clock Saturday morning. Prayer by Elder H. W. Inzer.

SATURDAY MORNING, 9½ o'clock.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder Jas. M. Thomas.

1. Read and adopted the minutes of the preceding day.

2. Then called for report of Committee on Business, which was read and adopted.

3. Opened the door for the reception of churches again, and renewed the call for correspondents, and received Elder T. P. Holcomb from Shelby Association, and, also, the same brother from Alabama Baptist State Convention; and, also, invited Elder J. Purcell to a seat as visiting minister.

4. Called for reports of standing committees:

Report on Sabbath Schools, see exhibit A.
On Domestic and Foreign Missions, see exhibit B.
On Temperance, C.
On Documents, D.
On Family Religion, E.
On Finance, F.

5. Returned correspondents:

To Coosa River.—James D. Inzer, Elder James M. Thomas, S. A. Goss, R. J. Seal and P. S. Montgomery.

To Shelby Association.—Isaac L. Brasher, W. K. DeShazer, Elders H. W. Inzer, M. Hendrick and Levi Perry.

Ten Islands.—Elders R. W. Inzer, P. S. Montgomery, R. Hodges and Elder J. M. Thomas.

Canaan.—Elder James M. Thomas, M. Hendrick, E. W. Attaway, G. Purcell, Jas. Neighbors and P. S. Montgomery.

Baptist State Convention.—Elders M. Hendrick, P. S. Montgomery, J. Purcell, Jas. Neighbors, Jas. M. Thomas, A. W. Lacy and H. B. Moore.

The Association then took the query sent up from Cooks Springs, in regard to Mt. Moriah church, and upon investigation, said church was found in disorder, and, thereupon, the Association passed the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this Association withdraw her fellowship from Mt. Moriah church until she sets herself right before this body, and that,

WHEREAS, There are believed to be members in said church that oppose the disorderly conduct of the majority, that this Association deem it but proper and but justice that other churches of this body receive such into their fellowship if they set themselves right.

Adjourned to 8½ o'clock Monday morning.

SABBATH EXERCISES.

9 o'clock Sabbath morning met in Sabbath School Mass Meeting, addressed by brethren Purcell, Castlebury, H. W. Inzer and Lacy. At the hour of 12, brother A. J. Waldroop preached an able sermon from the great commission, Mark xvi : 15, after which a collection was taken up, amounting to $15, and, through a proposition from Elder H. W. Inzer, there was made up in pledges and cash to the amount of $18. Brother T. P. Holcomb preached, at 3 o'clock, a short and sweet sermon, in his smooth style. Sunday night, brother H. W. Inzer preached from the text, "Worship God." A good sermon.

MONDAY MORNING, 8½ o'clock.

Met according to adjournment. Prayer by brother A. McDonald.

1. Called the roll.
2. Appointed committees to report at the next meeting of this body:

On Sabbath Schools.—Elder H. W. Inzer, Jas. D. Inzer, and F. Lawly.

On Home and Foreign Missions.—A. W. Lacy, Elias Patterson and James Bibby.

On Temperance.—M. Hendrick, S. A. Goss and H. B. Moore.

On Documents.—P. S. Montgomery, R. Hodges and Jas. M. Newton.

On Education.—John W. Inzer, P. S. Montgomery and G. D. Johnston.

On Family Religion.—R. W. Inzer, E. W. Attaway, and A. J. Obar.

Districting Association.—Levi Perry, H. W. Inzer and E. W. Attaway.

Executive Board.—A. W. Lacy, H. B. Moore and W. C. Britton.

Distributing Agents.—E. W. Attaway and A. Wyatt, Cedar Grove, Ala.; H. W. Inzer and M. Hendrick, Cropwell, St. Clair county, Ala., and P. S. Montgomery, Ashville, Ala.

Granted a letter of dismission to Coosa Valley Church.

The next meeting of this body to be held with the Ashville Baptist Church, Ashville, Ala., on Friday before the third Sabbath in October, 1872. Brother R. W. Inzer to preach the Introductory Sermon, and Jas. M. Thomas, alternate.

Resolved, That the Clerk receive $10 for his service, and print as many minutes with the remainder as it will justify; also, that he be

allowed $10 for recording on the Associational book the previous meetings of this body, to be paid out of the first money in the treasury.

Resolved, That the collection taken up on Sunday, amounting to $15, be paid to G. D. Johnston, for his service as Missionary in 1871.

Resolved, That the Domestic Mission fund for last year be turned over to 1872.

Resolved That this Association regrets that any one should charge her with any knowledge of some incidents that took place on Saturday night, in regard to an imposter, Mr. Sherman, in this community.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be returned to the brothers and sisters of Hebron Church, and to the citizens of this community, for their kind hospitalities shown to us during our stay.

Adjourned to meet with the Ashville Baptist Church, Ashville, Ala., Friday before the third Sabbath in October, 1872.

A.—REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools report that there is yet a criminal neglect in this all-important branch of Christian duty. Our people need to be aroused on this subject. It is here that a great door is opened for Christian labor, and it is here that we may gain an entrance into the heart of the young, and implant the truths of the gospel with a success not surpassed. Here is a work that may well call forth the admiration of angels. We know that it is the imperative duty of every church in the bounds of this body to establish a Sabbath School in her midst. Every pastor should see to it. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Brethren and sisters, see that we do it.

P. Castlebury, *Chairman.*

B.—REPORT ON MISSIONS.

We, your committee to whom was referred the subject of Foreign and Domestic Missions, report that but little is being done by us in comparison with what might and should be done; and that it is the duty of the churches to do all in their power to preach the gospel of Christ to every creature, is a point that your committee considers long since settled. Christ, in the great commission has declared this in language too plain to need further explanation. The only thing to be settled is, how can we most successfully carry on this great, grand and glorious work. The day of miraculous intervention is passed. God has seen fit, in His infinite wisdom and goodness, to ordain human instrumentalities for the completion of this work, under the direction of the Holy Spirit. Now, no sane mind, for a moment, will suppose that the ministry alone, are required to do this, and every Christian heart desires to do something in this most exalted work. That the ministry are not required to do this alone, is evident from the teachings of the Apostles in 1 Cor., 9 chap., 7 to 14 verses, while speaking of the rights of the

Apostles says, "who goeth a warfare at his own charges, or planteth a vineyard and eateth not of the fruit thereof, or feedeth a flock and drinketh not of the milk," says, "even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel." The spirit says, separate me, Saul and Barnabas, unto the work, whereunto I have called them," Acts xiii: 2. Saul and Barnabas being thus separated, by reading the Acts we find, were constantly engaged in the work. And the Holy Spirit gives instruction how the "charge" and expenses of this great work may be successfully carried on. Hear the divine order: "Let every one of you, upon the first day of the week, lay by him, in store, as God has prospered him, that there be no gathering when I come." Also, read 2 Cor., vii: 17 and 19; do. xi: 7 to 9; do. xii:. 12. Phil. iv: 15 to 19. Here we find several receipts from Paul, for valuables received by him from the churches.

H. W. Inzer, *Chairman.*

C.—REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee on Temperance, report that temperance does not forbid the prudent use of all the blessings of God, but that none should be used to our injury. But the popular idea of Temperance is the restraint or prohibition of the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage. This excessive use we deem the crying sin of our land, and we would lift our voice against the use in any manner except it be *strictly as a medicine.* As to the evils resulting from intemperance, the blind may see and the deaf may hear—youth with its strength and hope blighted forever—old age with gray hairs hurried to the tomb in sorrow, and female innocence trampled upon by those whose strong arms and brave hearts should be energized for their support. A catalogue of horrors might here be enumerated of its evils, that, it seems, might be sufficient to shock the moral sensibilities of any and arouse them to high efforts to impede its progress.

Resolved, therefore, That this Association recommend to her churches the use of a vigilant discipline over all their members in regard to this matter, that we may rid ourselves of this evil.

Asa Wyatt, *Chairman.*

D.—REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

Your committee to whom was referred the matter of Documents, report that from the letters from the churches, they seem to be in a good state and enjoying a gracious out-pouring of the Holy Spirit, and have had a great many added to their numbers. There are a few, however, that complain of coldness. But we regret to see, from the reading of the letters, so little being done in the Sabbath School. We recommend the Bible to the careful study of our people as the source of life and light and all truth, and as the standard of appeal in all matters of faith and duty. We recommend the Christian Index and Southwestern

Baptist, published at Atlanta, Ga.; also, the *Baptist*, published at Memphis, Tennessee; also, *Kind Words*, published at Memphis, Tennesse, for our Sabbath Schools.

E. W. Attaway, *Chairman.*

E.—REPORT ON FAMILY RELIGION.

Your committee, to whom was referred the subject of Family Religion, report that this is a matter of vital interest, and that the way to keep alive a personal religion is to keep up a regular family devotion, by reading the holy Scriptures, singing and prayer offered up night and morning, with suitable questions and lessons to the young and all present. The altar in the family should be a standing altar, and all the family should appear there at a throne of grace. Will not all parents take up the cross at once, and soon the cross will become a pleasure, and with the pleasure a rich reward. Oh, how pleasant and sweet for husband and wife, parents and children to hold communion with the Father of mercies night and morning.

Levi Perry, *Chairman.*

F.—REPORT ON FINANCE.

Your Committee on Finance, reports—

Received for Minutes	$39	00
Contributions on Sabbath for Domestic Mission	$ 15	20
For Indian Missions	14	00
Pledges for Domestic Missions last year	105	00

James D. Inzer, *Chairman.*

G.—REPORT ON EDUCATION..

Your Committee on Education, believe Education to be an accomplishment, that knowledge is power, and wisdom is glory. No child is born into the world full of knowledge or religion—no, all this is imparted to the youth by tuition and moral culture. The youthful mind is a jewel that needs the polish, and who but the parent can place this crown, to glitter in after life. Then let every parent awake to their duty at once, and let it be a daily business, a life-time duty. Let Jesus be your helper, and the Bible your school-book. We believe a hint to the wise is quite sufficient. But hark, if knowledge and wisdom be power and a crown of glory to the youth, is it not more so to our young ministers, who are to teach the masses of mankind the good and the right way in all things? Should not the priest's lips keep knowledge? If so, let the churches send them to school and to college, and give them every possible aid to make them able and useful ministers of Jesus. Your committee recommend Howard College as a suitable place of

instruction for our sons and young ministers Will the churches heed these short hints?

JAS. M. THOMAS, *Chairman.*

MINISTERS AND THEIR POST-OFFICES.

G D Johnston	Ashville, Ala	Paul Castlebury	Crosswell, Ala
R W Inzer	"	J S Brasher	Cedar Grove, Ala
P S Montgomery	"	A McDonald	"
H W Inzer	Crosswell, Ala	L B McDonald	"
Jesse A Collins	"	W C McLaughlin	"
M Hendrick	"	Asa Wyatt	"
Levi Perry	"	R Ramsey	Branchville, Ala
J Purcel	"		

REPORT OF CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	Baptized.	Dism'd by Letter.	Recv'd by Letter.	Excluded.	Restored.	Dead.	Total.
Ashville	10	1	1	1	..	1	89
Beulah	....	..	..	..	..	..	31
Black Creek	5	13	..	1	1	..	20
Bethel	13	14	20	5	4	1	76
Cook's Springs	5	6	2	..	..	..	34
Central	2	3	6	1	..	..	53
Concord	1	..		..	..	..	16
Cedar Grove	3	3	9	..	5	..	25
Friendship, St. Clair county	....	..	1	..	..	..	35
Friendship, Jefferson county	....	..	..	..	..	..	....
Mt. Pleasant, St. Clair county	15	7	1	..	..	1	46
Mt. Pleasant, Wolf Creek	2	3	8	..	..	..	47
Hebron	....	5	12	..	1	..	72
Harmony	....	4	..	..	..	..	27
Refuge	....	1	1	..	..	..	20
Mt. Pisgah	25	3	2	1	5	1	98
Pleasant Grove, Shelby county	....	5	..	..	..	..	22
New Hope	16	10	5	..	1	1	72
Mt. Pleasant, Jefferson county	5	8	3	..	..	..	38
Coosa Valley	18	3	6	..	..	1	89
Total	120	83	77	9	17	6	890

THE CHRISTIAN INDEX AND SOUTH-WESTERN BAPTIST,

A FIRST-CLASS RELIGIOUS AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER,

Of the largest size, and printed in the best style of the art.
Published every Thursday, at Atlanta, Ga

TERMS: THREE DOLLARS PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE.

Address all communications for the paper to

J. J. TOON, Atlanta, Ga.

☞ Will not *every Baptist* aid in giving the INDEX AND BAPTIST the widest possible circulation?

☞ *Book and Job Printing and Bookbinding, of every description, done in the best style, at the lowest prices, at this office. Orders by mail or otherwise carefully and promptly attended to.*